

SPORTS

Throwing rocks

Season gets underway in Middleton

Karen Sotvedt
Throwing rocks



MIDDLETON

With Hallowe'en safely out of the way with no tricks, and the prospect of lots of treats in store, Middleton Curling Club opened its new season on Nov. 1 with all the leagues in full operation.

The first league starting on that day was the Western Draw, which features six-end games and teams that change after the new year so curlers can meet and play with more members. This night is perfect for new and returning curlers and some teams rotate positions so players have the opportunity to learn the strategy of different situations. The Western Draw has room to expand so if you have been thinking of trying out curling, this would be the place to start.

Mondays and Wednesdays the Afternoon League starts an eight-end game by drawing lots for team members at 1 p.m. Whether there are 18 or 28, everyone gets to play and after the game, curlers enjoy some social time over coffee and sweets. In addition, Monday has the evening Open League, for teams of any composition, all male, all female or mixed. These eight-end games start at 7 p.m. Also starting at 7 p.m. is the Thursday night Mixed League of teams composed of two men and two women.

Information on all these leagues, their co-ordinators and contacts can be found on the club website at www.middletoncurlingclub.com

MCC is proud of its Youth Program for Little Rocks and Junior Curlers, held after

school on Monday afternoons. Unlike many youth sports, curling is affordable for everyone and the only equipment needed is a clean pair of sneakers. Youth co-ordinator Dawn Spidle has used local and provincial grants to buy some basics that are available at the club so curling is accessible to all students who wish to try it. Contact and timing information is available on the MCC website under programs.

And what about the aforementioned "treats?" Well, Saturday, Nov. 19 was the most recent Big Breakfast, a great community favourite starting at 8 a.m. and running until 10:30 a.m. This full, hot breakfast of bacon, eggs, sausage, pancakes, beans, toast and beverages is the best in the area.

Also a great social event is Chase the Ace on Friday nights, with the club open at 6:30 p.m. for tickets on the 8:15 draw. The recent pot was more than \$1,200.

Coming up in a few weeks is the annual Holiday Fete and Funspiel. If you like a great day of social curling, you should come out to the event, which is open to individual entries for two six-end games, lunch, and prizes for everyone. Running at the same time is the club's famous holiday ticket auction with lots of fabulous prizes. Mark Dec. 3 on your calendar for this great day in the run-up to the holidays. And watch www.middletoncurlingclub.com for all our upcoming events.

Karen Sotvedt is a member of the Middleton Curling Club.



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